

## Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 AID-20 EB-11 NSC-10 RSC-01 CIEP-02

TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-08 OMB-01 CEA-02 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 L-03 H-02 PA-03 PRS-01 USIA-12 COME-00 AGR-20

RSR-01 /137 W

----- 096294

R 171045 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5311

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANILA 5765

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EGEN, RP

SUBJECT: LAUREL- LANGLEY: GOP REQUEST FOR ECONOMIC  
NEGOTIATIONS

REFS: A. MANILA 5561

B. MANILA 4914

C. MANILA 0894

D. MANILA 12432 (1972)

E. MANILA 44

1. AS REPORTED REF A, WE ARE ONCE AGAIN SEIZED OF A  
FORMAL REQUEST BY THE GOVERNMENT OF THE PHILIPPINES TO  
INDICATE IN SOME FASHION OUR INTENTIONS RESPECTING FUTURE  
TALKS ON ECONOMIC RELATIONS. THIS REQUEST REPRESENTS THE  
THIRD FORMAL APPROACH TO US IN 1973 AND THE FOURTH REQUEST  
IN THE PAST SIX MONTHS. THE CURRENT REQUEST REFLECTS AN  
INCREASINGLY URGENT PATTERN OF GOP PRESSURES HERE WHICH  
WE EXPECT TO MOUNT UNTIL WE RESPOND AND WHICH WE ARE GETTING  
IN FACE- TO- FACE CONTACT WITH RANKING TECHNOCRATS.

2. MISSION DOES NOT BELIEVE THAT WE NEED TO RESPOND  
SPECIFICALLY OR PUBLICLY TO TYPE OF EFFORT GOP IS NOW  
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MAKING ( MANILA 5263). WE DO BELIEVE HOWEVER THAT IT IS INCREASINGLY LESS SERVICE TO OUR INTERESTS FOR US TO REMAIN COMPLETELY SILENT ON THE REQUESTS FOR ECONOMIC TALKS. ON THE CONTRARY, WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE BEST TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF SOME INTERIM REPLY TO THE PENDING REQUESTS IN ORDER TO HEAD OFF OR AT LEAST DAMP DOWN FURTHER PUBLIC COMMENT BY GOI ON THIS SUBJECT AND TO

PREVENT AN EVIDENTLY RISING GOP FRUSTRATION FROM TAKING THE SUBSTANTIVE ELEMENTS OF SUCH POTENTIAL DISCUSSIONS INTO THE PUBLIC DOMAIN.

4. WE THEREFORE PROPOSE TO TAKE THE INITIATIVE WITH GOP BY REPLYING IN A NOTE ALONG THE FOLLOWING LINES:

QUOTE: EMBASSY HAS THE HONOR TO REFER TO THE DEPARTMENT' S NOTE OF MAY 14, 1973 EXPRESSING THE INTEREST OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE PHILIPPINES IN THE CONTENT AND TIMING OF POSSIBLE FUTURE TALKS ON ECONOMIC RELATIONS.

AS INDICATED ON EARLIER OCCASIONS, THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES IS PREPARED AT ANY TIME MUTUALLY CONVENIENT TO BOTH PARTIES TO EXPLORE WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF

THE PHILIPPINES THE POSSIBILITIES FOR A MUTUALLY SATISFACTORY ARREEMENT OF THE FRIENDSHIP, COMMERCE AND NAVIGATION ( FCN) OR AMITY AND ECONOMIC RELATIONS ( AER) TYPE. WE BELIEVE SUCH AN EXPLORATION OF THE ISSUES AND PROBLEMS LIKELY TO DEMAND THE MOST SERIOUS ATTENTION AND THOUGHT OF OUR TWO GOVERNMENTS TO BE AN ESSENTIAL PRELIMINARY TO DECISIONS ON ANY MORE FORMAL TALKS.

THE EMBASSY WOULD WELCOME THE VIEWS OF THE DEPARTMENT ON HOW BEST TO PROCEED IN LIGHT OF THE FOREGOING SUGGESTION.  
END QUOTE.

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5. IT IS OUR JUDGMENT THAT SUCH A BEGCCNING WILL ASSIST MEATERIALLY TOWARD RELIEVING PRESSURES VIVIBLY NOUNTING WITHIN THE GOP TO FIND OUT HOW THEIR LEGITIMATE INTERESTS IN THIS AREA ARE TO BE SERVED. WE HAVE SPECIFIED IN OUR DRAFT THE FCN OR AER CATEGORY IN ORDER TO AVOID ANY MISUNDERSTANDING AS TO WHAT WE PROPOSE TO EXPLORE AT THIS TIME. SUCH AN OVERTURE WOULD BE HELPFUL IN SHOWING

THAT WE RECOGNIZE PHILIPPINE CONCERNS IN THIS AREA AS WE HAVE  
RESPECTING THE OTHER MAIN SETS OF PENDING ISSUES.  
WE HAVE GONE THROUGH TECHNICAL TALKS WITH GOP OVER THE  
PAST TWO YEARS ON THE MILITARY BASES  
AGREEMENT, AND THE NON- AGREED ITEMS ARE UNDERSTOOD ON  
BOTH SIDES. WE HAVE JUST AGREED WITH GOP TO BEGIN  
NEGOTIATION OF A POSSIBLE EXTRADITION TREATY. WITH  
RESPECT TO CIVIL AVIATION MATTERS, THE BALL IS IN GOP' S  
COURT BY VIRTUE OF OUR PRESENTATION FEB. 15 IN WASHINGTON  
OR FEB. 16 IN MANILA OF THE BASIS ON WHICH WE WOULD  
BE PREPARED TO RESUME NEGOTIATIONS. IT IS ONLY IN THE  
FIELD OF ECONOMIC RELATIONS THAT A CLEAR NEED PRESENTLY  
EXISTS FOR A LIMITED BUT SOMEWHAT MORE SPECIFIC  
SIGNAL FROM THE UNITED STATES. SUCH A  
SIGNAL IS ALSO IMPORTANT AS AN INDEX OF USG INTENT FOR  
AMERICAN BUSINESSMEN BOTH HERE AND IN THE U. S.

6. WE REQUEST THE DEPARTMENT' S CONCURRENCE IN THE FORE-  
GOING APPROACH AND WE WOULD WELCOME SUGGESTIONS REGARDING  
PROPOSED LANGUAGE OF THE NOTE.  
HAMILTON

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NMAFVVZCZ

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